

## VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

### Staff Report – Item 13

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Mitch Sears, Executive Officer  
Gordon Samuel, Assistant General Manager & Director of Power Resources  
Alisa Lembke, VCE Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst

**SUBJECT:** Consider Appointment to Jurisdiction seat on Community Advisory Committee

**DATE:** July 13, 2023

#### RECOMMENDATION

1. Consider candidate for appointment to vacant City of Woodland seat for a three (3) year term to expire June 2026 (Class 2); and
2. Continue to solicit candidates for vacant At-Large and unincorporated Yolo County jurisdiction seats.

#### BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The Board at their September 9, 2021 meeting, adopted a [revised Community Advisory Committee \(CAC\) structure](#) with eleven total members: eight jurisdictional members (two per jurisdiction) and three additional seats for At-large members intended to fill specific subject matter expertise/experience areas.

At the Board's June 15, 2023 Special meeting, the Board was informed that Class 2 appointments expired in June 2023 and in March 2023 Staff received a resignation from the Member appointed to represent the City of Woodland. After consideration, the Board reappointed Jennifer Rindahl to the City of Winters jurisdiction seat; appointed Carl Linvill to the vacant City of Davis jurisdiction seat; and directed staff to continue the solicitation of candidates for the other vacant seats in Class 2: City of Woodland and unincorporated Yolo County. As directed, VCE continued to solicit and advertise for applicants.

VCE has received one application for the City of Woodland seat. No other applications have been received and no applications are on file.

Staff reviewed the application from Diccon Westworth, a resident of Woodland and VCE customer. In summary: Mr. Westworth is interested in community outreach and meeting the needs of local residents, businesses, and the local government community with focus on incentivizing others to lessen dependency on fossil fuels and replace with renewable energy sourcing. He has experience in

sustainability within the veterinary profession by promoting sustainability through awareness, education and community.

Consistent with past practice, staff provided the application to the jurisdiction Board Members (City of Woodland), for their review and consideration for recommendation to the Board for appointment.

In addition, VCE received CAC At-Large member Kristin Jacobs' resignation due to them moving out of VCE's service area. This leaves a vacant At-Large seat within Class 3, term expiring June 2024.

**CONCLUSION**

Staff recommends the Board consider:

1. Appointment of Diccon Westworth to the vacant City of Woodland seat for a three (3) year term to expire June 2026 (Class 2); and
2. Continue to solicit candidates for vacant unincorporated Yolo County jurisdiction (Class 2) and At-Large (Class 3) seats until filled.

Below is a listing of the other "classes" and expiration terms:

**CLASS 3 - term expires in June 2024**

At-Large – Lorenzo Kristov

At-Large – Keith Taylor

At-Large – Vacant

**CLASS 1 - term expires in June 2025:**

Winters Rep. – David Springer

Woodland Rep. – Mark Aulman

Davis Rep. – Rahul Athalye

Yolo County Rep. – Cynthia Rodriguez

**Attachment**

1. CAC City of Woodland Application



VALLEY  
CLEAN ENERGY

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
APPLICATION

Received on:

6/15/2023  
AMX

Return to:

Valley Clean Energy  
604 Second Street  
Davis, CA 95616

**PERSONAL DATA SHEET**

Name: Westworth Diccon Roger  
Last First Middle

Are you at least 18 years old? Yes

Home Address: [Redacted]  
Number/Street

Woodland, CA [Redacted]  
City/State/Zip

Email Address: [Redacted]

[Redacted] [Redacted]  
Daytime Phone Evening/Weekend Phone

Business Title or Occupation: Veterinary neurosurgeon/neurologist

Company/Organization: VCA Animal Care Center

Address: [Redacted] [Redacted] CA [Redacted]  
Street Address City, State and Zip

Which Valley Clean Energy jurisdiction do you reside in?

- City of Davis  City of Woodland  County of Yolo (Unincorporated)  City of Winters

If you do not reside in Valley Clean Energy's jurisdictions, please include a separate statement to address why you are applying for this committee.

Are you seeking to fill an At-Large Seat?  Yes  No

**Background Information:**

Why do you wish to serve as a member of the VCE Community Advisory Committee?

I wish to serve as a VCA member because I believe in community built/organized infrastructure, that represents the needs of the local residents, local business and gov. community and ecosystem. Some of the greatest limiting factors regarding local community resilience and adoption of renewable energies relate to city/county and state permitting. With the passing of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act at long last there are incredible funds and incentives to realize our ability to wean ourselves off fossil fuels and adopt close to or even 100% renewable energy sourcing and distribution. I would very much like to assist in any way this essential transition of our community to true zero CO2 e emissions.

What experience/perspective would you bring to the committee? Please reference the professional sector and related professional experience below for At-Large member applications in this section.

I am a veterinarian and understand both small business and larger community needs. I am my hospitals Sustainability Lead.  
I have completed the recent Al Gore's Climate Reality Project Leadership core training on the IRA and its implementation and would like to put that training to good use.  
I am a director at Veterinary Sustainability Alliance, a brand new non-profit that aims to promote sustainability in the veterinary profession through awareness, education and community. I am working with similar projects in the UK- Vet Sustain and Australia- Vets for Climate Action in this regard.  
I have completed the Certificate in Environmental Management - IEMA course.

Please list your previous and present governmental and civic experience. Indicate when, position and duties:

I have no official governmental or civic experience, other than voluntary children's programs including Davis soccer club travel manager and DSHS Madrigal coordinator for the Wine Pour and Dinner 2021 and 2022.

List any special training or experience you have that you feel would benefit your committee service:

See above.  
I also have spent much time converting my own home in Woodland to the most sustainable and lowest CO2e emissions possible. Thus I know what it takes and the impact it makes.  
This includes: xeriscaping, going 100% renewable with Ultra Green (and I am the first to have an official sign- thanks to Rebecca Boyle!), installing a large solar array 2020, weatherization, electric car and charger 2021, installing heat pump/cooler to replace current HVAC, induction stove top and heat pump water heater 2023. When all finally installed my home will be zero CO2e emissions ongoing. Family has also become vegan in the last 2 years (well most of the time!).

Do you have any interests or associations which might present a conflict of interest?

If yes, please explain:

No

What do you feel are your most important qualifications?

That I provide both perspective as a scientist - veterinarian and also an environmental steward through my current focus on sustainability and that I live what I say. I am living proof that you can decrease your carbon footprint to 3 tons CO<sub>2</sub>/year and less.

What do you see as some of the significant issues facing the community in the next few years that might pertain to Valley Clean Energy's Community Advisory Committee?

Onboarding the community to focus on individual household and business purchase of cleanest energy possible and goal of attaining 100% renewable. To do this there will need to be much community outreach, education and engagement. There are huge funds to access through the IRA both at the community level and through personal rebates and tax incentives for electrifying everything. Facilitating spread of this information is essential and I have these resources since doing the Climate Reality Project Leadership core.

In addition this will require liaison with contractors and permitting officers to ensure that there is adequate clean energy infrastructure and connectivity to provide 100% renewable energy source to the community. This will also require applying for grants and persuading agencies to fund our community.

What do you hope to accomplish as a committee member?

To assist with onboarding the community to focus on individual household and business purchase of cleanest energy possible and goal of attaining 100% renewable.  
And also to assist with connecting to contractors and permitting officers to ensure that there is adequate clean energy infrastructure and connectivity to provide 100% renewable energy source to the community. I can provide input to how to structure grant writing and be persuasive.

**I am aware of the obligations and responsibilities of this committee and am willing and able to fulfill this commitment should I be appointed: (Initial here: DRW )**

**Please attach your resume or any additional information or statements which you feel would be helpful to the Valley Clean Energy Board of Directors in reviewing your qualifications.**

#### AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE

I understand that in connection with this application for appointment, the information contained herein will be made available to the general public upon request. I further understand that if appointed, I may be required to take the oath of office and may be subject to requirements for filing financial disclosure statements.

  
Please Sign Here

6-11-2023  
Date

**NOTE: This document is a public record and may be disclosed/released pursuant to the California Public Records Act.**

#### FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Applications will be kept on file for two years. This application will expire on: 6/15/2025

Date of appointment by the Valley Clean Energy Board: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of term: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a re-appointment? \_\_\_\_\_